



Environmental Bulletin

Volume 14, Number 20
August 7, 2003

from the Savannah River Site

Record of Decision issued for A-Area Miscellaneous Rubble Pile

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) have selected the remedial approach for Savannah River Site's (SRS) A-Area Miscellaneous Rubble Pile (ARP) operable unit (OU). A 45-day public comment period for the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan and the associated draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit modification was held from September 21, 2001 to November 4, 2001.

DOE, the EPA, and SCDHEC have determined that the preferred remedial actions consists of the following:

Piles Area – Hot Spot Removal and Disposal:

Under this remedial action, the polychlorinated biphenyl / polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PCB/PAH) waste pile and the lead hot spot would be excavated, removed, and disposed in an off-unit permitted disposal facility.

Ash Area – Institutional Controls: This remedial action consists of implementing institutional controls that would prohibit future residential land use and restrict access and activities. This alternative is considered acceptable due to the low levels of arsenic.

Trenches Area – Passive Soil Vapor Extraction, Soil Cover, and Institutional Controls: This remedial action includes the installation of passive soil vapor extraction wells (Baraballs™) to remove the tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE) in the vadose zone by venting these solvents to the atmosphere where they are quickly photodegraded. Institutional controls would prohibit future residential land use and provide additional protection of future industrial workers in the Trenches Area.

The ARP operable unit is a 5.9-acre unit at the southern end of A/M Area at Savannah River Site, and contains three primary sources of contamination: construction debris piles, a near-surface ash layer, and a T-shaped disposal trench. Because these three areas are physi-

cally distinct and are located in separate areas of the ARP, the ARP was divided into three separate subunits: the Piles Area, the Ash Area, and the Trenches Area.

The remedial decision is documented in the Record of Decision document. This document includes a responsiveness summary that addresses public comments. DOE has worked with SCDHEC and EPA to ensure the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements.

Copies of the Record of Decision are available in the administrative record. The administrative record is available in the information repositories listed below:

- DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the Record of Decision are available at the following:

- Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and
- Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

For additional information, contact Jim Moore at the address listed below.

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The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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